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a first information indicating the data unit which contains an access unit corresponding to an I-picture, and

a second information of a random access indicator corresponding to the I-picture, said recording apparatus comprising:

a first unit configured to receive the support information contained in said MPEG transport stream;

a second unit configured to record the support information in the management area of said medium; and

a third unit configured to record the MPEG transport stream in the data area of said medium.

41. (New) The medium of claim 24, wherein either of said first and second information serves to permit a special playback mode including a first forward or first reverse.

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 24 and 32-41 are presently active; Claims 3-5, 7, 9, 11, 14-23, and 25-31 having been canceled, Claims 24 and 32 having been amended, and Claims 33-41 having been added by way of the present amendment. Support for amended Claims 24 and 32 and for new Claims 33-41 can be found at least on pages 23-25; on page 63, lines 7-9; and in Figures 7, 9, and 34-37 of Applicants' specification. No new matter has been added.

In the Office Action, Claims 19-24, 31, and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Okada (U.S. Patent No. 6,266,483, hereinafter Okada). Claims 3-5, 7,

9, 11, 14-18, and 25-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okada in view of Kikuchi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,112,009, hereinafter Kikuchi).

Claims 3-5, 7, 9, 11, 14-23, and 25-31 have been canceled by way of the present amendment. Therefore, rejections pertaining to the same have been rendered moot.

Amended Claim 24 recites, among other features, support information stored in a management area and configured to include at least one of: 1) first information¹ indicating the data unit which contains an access unit corresponding to an I-picture², and 2) second information³ of a random access indicator corresponding to the I-picture⁴. In this way, for example, a special playback mode is provided⁵.

Okada does not disclose or suggest such features. Okada discloses an information recording medium capable of handling different kinds of AV streams, wherein the information recording medium includes object information and playback control information⁶. In Okada, a received MPEG transport stream⁷ is analyzed for purposes of creating a T Map⁸; in particular, a random access indicator contained in an adaptation field is used to create the T Map⁹. In contrast to amended Claim 24, Okada does not disclose support information stored in a management area and including at least one of first information indicating the data unit which contains an access unit corresponding to an I-picture, and second information of a random access indicator corresponding to the I-picture. Conversely, Okada discloses a random access indicator is used to create a T Map. Information of the random access indicator is not stored in support information in a management area of an

¹ Specification at Figures 34-37.

² Specification at page 25, line 12-14, and page 26, lines 16-17.

³ Specification at "(b)" in Figure 7.

⁴ Specification at page 63, lines 7-9.

⁵ Specification at page 46, lines 17-24.

⁶ Okada at col. 4, lines 35-46.

⁷ Okada at Figures 14A-14D.

⁸ Okada at T Map 86c) Fig. 11.

⁹ Okada at col. 12, lines 41-54.

information storage medium, as recited in amended Claim 24. Also, Okada fails to disclose a data unit containing an access unit corresponding to an I-picture, as recited in amended Claim 24.

Accordingly, amended Claim 24 is patentable over Okada, and Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 24 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). Claims 32-34 and 41 directly depend from independent Claim 24 and are patentable for at least the reasons discussed above.

New independent Claims 35-38 and 40 recite subject matter substantially similar to that of amended Claim 24. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 35-38 and 40 are also patentable for at least the reasons discussed above. New Claim 39 depends from Claim 38 and is patentable for at least the reasons discussed above.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 24 and 32 as follows:

24. (Amended) An information storage medium, comprising:

a data area configured to store an MPEG transport stream containing information of I-
pictures, said MPEG transport stream being recorded as data units; and

a management area configured to store [any] support information [that may be stored]
contained in the MPEG transport stream, wherein,

said support information to be stored in said management area is configured to include
at least one of:

a first information indicating the data unit which contains an access unit
corresponding to an I-picture, and

a second information of a random access indicator corresponding to the I-picture.

32. (Amended) The information storage medium of Claim 24, wherein the support
information includes at least one of a group including:

a [random access indicator] first support flag of the random access indicator indicating
whether random access is permitted,[:]

a [unit start indicator] second support flag of a unit start indicator, wherein data of the
I-picture is configured to be read when said unit start indicator is supported,[:] and

an identification code]

a third support flag indicating whether a program association table and a program map table are supported, and

a fourth support flag indicating whether a presentation clock reference is supported.

33-41. (New).